

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Application No.: 10/572,878

Docket No. Q93975

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Applicant herein cancels the Specification in its entirety and substitutes therefor a Substitute Specification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(a). In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(b)(1), the Substitute Specification contains no new matter. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(b)(2), a redlined copy of the original specification showing the amendments thereto is attached to this Amendment. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.125(c), a clean copy of the Substitute Specification is attached to this Amendment, and the Substitute Specification complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1). Entry of the Substitute Specification is requested.

Please delete the present Abstract of the Disclosure.

Please add the following new Abstract of the Disclosure:

A process for producing propylene oxide, which comprises the following steps:

oxidation step: a step of obtaining cumene hydroperoxide by oxidizing cumene;

epoxidation step: a step of obtaining propylene oxide and cumyl alcohol by reacting cumene hydroperoxide obtained in the oxidation step with propylene; and

conversion step: a step of obtaining cumene by subjecting cumyl alcohol obtained in the epoxidation step to hydrogenation-containing reaction and recycling the cumene to the oxidation step,

wherein a concentration of 1,2-epoxy-2-phenylpropane contained in the reaction mixture after the oxidation step, is 1% by weight or less.